



Commission Members:  
Allen Poole, Chairman  
Spencer R. Moore, Vice Chairman  
Laura Boalch  
J. Barry Schrenk  
Kathy L. Watts  
Dr. Malika Reed Wilkins

## Georgia Driver's Education Commission

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Fiscal Year 2023 First Quarter Meeting  
September 27, 2022, 1:30 PM  
19 Martin Luther King, Jr., Drive  
Room 201  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

### Agenda

- |   |  |                     |
|---|--|---------------------|
| 1. Call to Order  | <i>Allen Poole</i>   |                     |
| 2. Roll Call and Guest Introduction                               |  |                     |
| 3. Adoption of Agenda   | <i>Allen Poole</i>   | Page 1              |
| 4. Approval of June 10, 2022 Meeting                              | <i>Allen Poole</i>   | Page 2              |
| 5. Minutes  |  |                     |
| 6. Public Comments  | <i>Allen Poole</i>   |                     |
| 7. Staff Report   | <i>Josh Turner</i>   |                     |
| a. Status Update on Implementation of<br>New Scholarship Criteria |  |                     |
| i. Recognition of Scope IT Consulting                             |  |                     |
| b. Scholarships Reports for July,<br>August, and September        |  | Page 18             |
| c. Scholarship Redemption Report                                  |  | Page 21             |
| d. Customer Service Report  |  | Page 21             |
| e. Legislative and Budget Challenges                              |  |                     |
| f. Staff Recognition  |  |                     |
| 8. Adoption of Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Report                     | <i>Josh Turner and<br/>Shenee Bryan,<br/>Contract<br/>Epidemiologist</i> | Separate<br>Handout |
| 9. Other New Business   | <i>Allen Poole</i>   |                     |
| 10. Adjournment   | <i>Allen Poole</i>   |                     |

Second Quarter Meeting: December 13, 2022, 1:30 p.m.

**MINUTES OF THE**  
**GEORGIA DRIVER'S EDUCATION COMMISSION MEETING**

June 10, 2022, at 2:00 p.m.

Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety  
7 Martin Luther King Jr., Drive, Suite 643, Atlanta, Georgia 30334.

Chairman Allen Poole called the June 22, 2021, meeting of Georgia Driver's Education Commission meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Those in attendance and constituting a quorum were as follows:

<b>Board Members in Attendance</b>	<b>Board Members not in Attendance</b>
Mr. Allen Poole, Chairman	Dr. Malika Reed Wilkins
Mr. Spencer R. Moore, Vice Chairman	
Ms. Laura Boalch	
Ms. Jennifer Marletta	
Mr. J. Barry Schrenk	
Ms. Kathy L Watts	

**Non-Members in Attendance were as follows:**

Mr. Josh Turner, Georgia Driver's Education Commission  
Ms. Kisha Bell, Georgia Driver's Education Commission  
Ms. Pamela Farr, Georgia Driver's Education Commission  
Mr. Robert Hydrick, Governor's Office of Highway Safety  
Ms. Amy Radley, Georgia Attorney General's Office  
Ms. Juenesse Holman, Georgia Department of Driver's Services

**Opening Remarks**

Meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m., by Chairman Allen Poole. Chairman Poole welcomed the new members to the board.

**Introduction of New Commission Members**

Governor Kemp has appointed four additional board members. They are the following: Barry Schrenk (Owner, Taggart's Driving School) and Kathy Watts (Owner, New London Driving School) representing private driving schools and Laura Boalch (Chief of Staff, Technical College System of Georgia) and Jennifer Marletta (Driver's Education Specialist, Marietta City Schools) representing public driving schools to the board. The new members took a moment to introduce themselves in the meeting. Chairman Poole and the commission is looking forward to doing some great things with our new board members.

**Approval of Agenda**

Chairman Poole presented the agenda. Vice Chairman Spencer R. Moore made a motion to adopt the agenda. Mr. J. Barry Schrenk seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of April 11, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

Chairman Poole presented the March 23, 2021, meeting minutes. Vice Chairman Moore made a motion to adopt the minutes. Chairman Poole seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of May 10, 2022 Called Meeting Minutes**

Vice Chairman Moore made a motion to adopt the minutes. Ms. Laura Boalch seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Public Comment**

Chairman Poole offered a time for Public Comment. There was no response.

**Staff Report**

Mr. Josh Turner presented the staff report including the Provider Scholarship Redemption Report, FY 2022 Customer Service Report, for April through June Scholarship Report. A copy of the Staff Report is attached. Mr. Turner took a moment to thank the staff for their hard work during the legislative session.

Chairman Poole asked if there were any questions for Mr. Turner regarding the Staff report. Chairman Poole entertain a motion to approve the report. Mr. Schrenk made a motion to adopt the minutes. Ms. Boalch seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Adoption Fiscal Year 2023 Proposed Meeting Schedule**

Chairman Poole presented the proposed meeting schedule for Fiscal Year 2023 as follows:

First Quarter Meeting: September 27, 2022

Second Quarter Meeting: December 13, 2022

Third Quarter Meeting: March 21, 2023

Fourth Quarter Meeting: June 20, 2023

All meeting times are scheduled for 1:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Commission meeting dates, times, and locations are subject to change by Call of the Chairman.

Chairman Poole asked if there was a motion to approve the FY 2023 proposed meeting schedule. Mr. Schrenk made a motion to adopt the proposed meeting schedule as presented. Chairman Pool seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Adoption of Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Amendment**

Mr. Turner presented the Fiscal Year 2022 Amended Budget and provided an overview of the proposed changes. Chairman Poole asked the board was there any questions regarding the amendment budget.

Chairman Poole advised that Mr. Turner is available to meet with anyone to review each line item if needed. Mr. Turner is available to provide a clear explanation for anyone who wants to become familiar with the budget.

Chairman Poole made a motion to adopt the Fiscal Year 2022 Amended budget. Vice Chairman Moore seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of the Amended Fiscal Year 2022 Budget as adopted is attached to these minutes.

### **Adoption of Fiscal Year 2023 Budget**

Chairman Poole presented the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget. Chairman Poole asked Mr. Turner to present the report. A copy of the report is attached.

Mr. Turner highlighted the software support line item which is for maintenance and upgrades. One of the proposed upgrades includes providing text messages and notifications to students and parents when their award is processed to increase time and efficiencies. In the past, the staff has received complaints that some parents and students do not receive email notifications regarding their award due to email spam blockers. This added method of communication will be another way of notifying the parents and students that their award was submitted successfully, including, notifications on redeeming the redemption codes and providing the completion date deadlines.

Also, the collections for the Driver Training and Education Fund for Fiscal Year 2022 as of June 7, 2022, was \$2,592,320.06. The Commission should be prepared for a potential decrease in the Amended Fiscal Year 2023 budget.

There was no further discussion about the budget.

Mr. Schrenk made a motion to adopt the budget. Ms. Boalch seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget as adopted is attached to these minutes.

### **Final Consideration and Possible Adoption of the Amendment to the Criteria Governing the Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program**

Mr. Turner presented the revised amendment that provides a summary of proposed changes to the Georgia Driver's Education Commission's Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program Eligibility Requirements. These proposed amendments were recommended by members of the Senate Public Safety Committee and will become effective July 1, 2022.

Mr. Turner provided a copy of the 175% of Free and Reduced-Price Meal Eligibility documentation and provided a summary. Mr. Turner previously provided a transcript of the public hearing conducted by Chairman Poole to provide public participation in this process. The transcript will be included as a part of the record.

There were no members of the public at the hearing to comment and Mr. Turner confirmed that no written comments were received by email or by mail and that no one commented by phone. There was further discussion regarding the Amendment to the Criteria Governing the Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program.

Mr. Schrenk congratulated Chairman Poole and Mr. Turner on their outstanding presentation during two separate Senate Public Safety Committee meetings. Mr. Schrenk stated that the two answered all questions honestly and provided correct information. They did a great job for the Governor's Office of

Highway Safety and the Georgia Driver's Education Commission. Anyone who attended that meeting should have the same appreciation for all that they did to protect the program. Chairman Poole thanked Mr. Schrenk for those comments.

Chairman Poole took a moment to thank Ms. Amy Radley from the Georgia Attorney General's Office. Ms. Radley has been very instrumental in assisting the Georgia Driver's Education Commission during the development of the changes to the program criteria.

Chairman Poole called for a motion to approve the Adoption of the Amendment to the Criteria Governing the Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program effective July 1, 2022. Mr. Schrenk made a motion to approve. Chairman Poole seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Other Business**

Chairman Poole opened the floor for other business. He also, welcomed the new board members again for coming onboard. There was no further discussion.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Schrenk made a motion to adjourn. Chairman Poole seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kischa Bell  
Operational Analyst  
Georgia Driver's Education Commission

## Fiscal Year 2022 Amended Budget as Adopted

Budget Category	Cost Category	Fiscal Year 2022	Amended Fiscal Year 2022
Computer Charges	Computer Charges	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -
Administrative Fees	Contractual Services	\$ 67,000.00	\$ 67,000.00
Software Support (Scholarship Program IT Support)	Contractual Services	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 69,601.00
Temporary Labor	Contractual Services	\$ 37,800.00	\$ 37,800.00
Scholarships	Grants	\$ 2,310,610.00	\$ 1,889,000.00
Board Member Expenses	Per Diem	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 400.00
Personnel Services	Personnel Services	\$ 233,440.00	\$ 240,873.00
Board Meeting Expenses	Regular Operating	\$ 500.00	\$ 200.00
Office Supplies	Regular Operating	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Printing	Regular Operating	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
Shipping	Regular Operating	\$ 500.00	\$ -
Software License	Regular Operating	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 80,976.00
Subscriptions, Memberships and Certifications	Regular Operating	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
Rent	Rent	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
Telecommunications	Telecommunciations	\$ 39,000.00	\$ 39,000.00
Staff Travel (Training and Audits)	Travel	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 13,000.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 2,913,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,489,000.00</b>

## Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Proposal as Adopted

Budget Category	Cost Category	Fiscal Year 2022	Amended Fiscal Year 2022	Fiscal Year 2023
Computer Charges	Computer Charges	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00
Administrative Fees	Contractual Services	\$ 67,000.00	\$ 67,000.00	\$ 67,000.00
Software Support (Scholarship Program IT Support)	Contractual Services	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 69,601.00	\$ 75,000.00
Temporary Labor	Contractual Services	\$ 37,800.00	\$ 37,800.00	\$ 32,000.00
Scholarships	Grants	\$ 2,310,610.00	\$ 1,889,000.00	\$ 2,333,500.00
Board Member Expenses	Per Diem	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 2,000.00
Personnel Services	Personnel Services	\$ 233,440.00	\$ 240,873.00	\$ 244,000.00
Board Meeting Expenses	Regular Operating	\$ 500.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 500.00
Office Supplies	Regular Operating	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Printing	Regular Operating	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00
Shipping	Regular Operating	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00
Software License	Regular Operating	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 80,976.00	\$ 81,000.00
Subscriptions, Memberships and Certifications	Regular Operating	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 500.00
Rent	Rent	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Telecommunications	Telecommunications	\$ 39,000.00	\$ 39,000.00	\$ 39,000.00
Staff & Board Member Travel	Travel	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 2,913,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,489,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,913,000.00</b>

\* Collections for the Driver Training and Education Fund for Fiscal Year 2022 as of June 7, 2022 was \$2,592,320.06.  
 The Commission should be prepared for a potential decrease in the Amended Fiscal Year 2023 budget.

## Amendments to Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program as Adopted

**Georgia Driver's Education Commission  
Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program  
Eligibility Requirements (Adopted 9/26/16 and Amended on 11/16/16<sup>i</sup>, 3/21/17<sup>ii</sup>, 6/26/17<sup>iii</sup>, 9/26/17<sup>iv</sup>, 3/27/18<sup>v</sup>, 3/26/19<sup>vi</sup>, ~~and 6/28/19<sup>vii</sup>~~, and 6/10/22<sup>viii</sup>)**

### A. Student Eligibility

1. The student must be a resident of the State of Georgia and actively enrolled in school.
2. The student must be between the ages of fifteen and seventeen and possess a valid Georgia instructional driving permit or driver's license.
3. First priority will be given to grant scholarship applicants who are a child or dependent of a ~~public safety professional~~Georgia first responder disabled or killed in the line of duty or member of the United States military killed in ~~the line of duty~~action and to applicants who are in state custody under the care of the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services. ~~-If the applicant is a child or dependent of a public safety professional~~Georgia first responder killed in the line of duty, the applicant must identify said professional and provide a copy of the student applicant's birth certificate or other government issued documentation proving the student was a dependent of the identified ~~public safety professional~~Georgia first responder. For purposes of this grant scholarship program, the Georgia Driver's Education Commission will rely on the Georgia Public Safety Memorial Committee to identify ~~and define a Georgia first responder~~public safety professionals killed in the line of duty. For purposes of this grant scholarship program, the Georgia Driver's Education Commission will rely on O.C.G.A § 35-8-7.4 (a) to identify and define a Georgia first responder. If the applicant is a child or dependent of a Georgia first responder disabled in the line of duty, the applicant must provide of letter of disability. ~~-If the applicant is a child or dependent of United States military personnel killed in the line of duty~~action, the applicant must provide DD Form 1300 (Report of Casualty) as documentation. If the applicant is under the care of the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services, the applicant must submit a letter documenting custody from the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services. Grant scholarship allocations in this priority level will be evenly distributed among Georgia's United States congressional districts.
4. Second priority will be given to scholarship applicants who can demonstrate a need based on family income. Financial need eligibility will be based on ~~425~~175% of the Free and Reduced Price Meal Eligibility program for the State of Georgia as published by the Georgia Department of Education. The Commission authorizes agency staff to make necessary technical adjustments to the Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program application and award process to ensure that the eligibility level is appropriately adjusted as the financial need eligibility for the Free and Reduced Price Meal program is increased or decreased by the Georgia Department of Education. Grant scholarship

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**Commented [TJ1]:** 35-8-7.4 (a): As used in this Code section, the term "first responder" means any firefighter of a municipal, county, or volunteer fire department, a peace officer as defined in Code Section 35-8-2, and an emergency medical technician as defined in Code Section 16-10-24.2.

35-8-2: "Peace officer" means, for purposes of this chapter only:

(A) An agent, operative, or officer of this state, a subdivision or municipality thereof, or a railroad who, as an employee for hire or as a volunteer, is vested either expressly by law or by virtue of public employment or service with authority to enforce the criminal or traffic laws through the power of arrest and whose duties include the preservation of public order, the protection of life and property, and the prevention, detection, or investigation of crime;

(B) An enforcement officer who is employed by the Department of Transportation in its Office of Permits and Enforcement and any person employed by the Department of Juvenile Justice who is designated by the commissioner to investigate and apprehend delinquent children and any child with a pending juvenile court case alleging the child to be a child in need of services;

(B.1) Personnel who are authorized to exercise the power of arrest, who are employed or appointed by the Department of Juvenile Justice, and whose full-time duties include the preservation of public order, the protection of life and property, the detection of crime, the supervision of delinquent children in the department's institutions, facilities, or programs, or the supervision of delinquent children under intensive supervision in the community;

(C) Personnel who are authorized to exercise the power of arrest and who are employed or appointed by the Department of Corrections, the Department of Community Supervision, the State Board of Pardons and Paroles, municipal correctional institutions employing 300 or more correctional officers, county probation systems, and county correctional institutions; and

(D) An administrative investigator who is an agent, operative, investigator, or officer of this state whose duties include the prevention, detection, and investigation of violations of law and the enforcement of administrative, regulatory, licensing, or certification requirements of his or her respective employing agency.

Law enforcement support personnel are not peace officers within the meaning of this chapter, but they may be certified upon voluntarily complying with the certification provisions of this chapter.

16-10-24.2: "Emergency medical technician" means any person who has been certified as an emergency medical technician, cardiac technician, paramedic, or first responder pursuant to Chapter 11 of Title 31.



allocations in this priority level will be evenly distributed among Georgia's United States congressional districts.

5. ~~Third priority will be given to all applicants who do not meet the criteria set forth in the first priority and second priority outlined above. Grant scholarship allocations in this priority level will be evenly distributed among Georgia's United States congressional districts. Paragraph reserved.~~
6. Grant scholarships will be awarded monthly. Grant scholarship applications are due on the last day of every month. Grant Scholarship awards and denials will be issued on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of each following month and will be sent by electronic mail. The number of grant scholarships available to be awarded will be determined by staff and entered into the grant scholarship management system. Grant scholarships will be awarded based on the priority levels defined above. All of the applicants in the first priority will be awarded before the second priority applicants, ~~and all of the second priority applicants will be awarded before third priority applicants are awarded a grant scholarship.~~ If more grant scholarship applications are submitted than grant scholarships available in each priority level, grant scholarships will be awarded using a computer generated random selection method from the priority level applications. The grant scholarship will be awarded in the form of a voucher to the student. The student may then take said voucher to an eligible ~~provider~~ Authorized Provider. The Authorized Provider will then submit the voucher to the Commission for reimbursement as set forth herein.
7. Students are only eligible to apply for a grant scholarship one time. If a student's application is rejected, the application will be reconsidered for the following two months and given priority over new applicants.
8. Scholarships are only valid for students who agree to complete a standard 30/6 driver's education course in which the student receives a minimum of thirty (30) hours of classroom training and six (6) hours of behind the wheel training. Additionally, the student's parent or guardian must be a co-applicant and agree to complete forty hours of supervised driving with the student. Additionally, the scholarship must be awarded prior to the start date of the driver's education course.
9. Students will only be awarded one scholarship. In the event of a failure or withdrawal from the course, the student will not be eligible to apply for another scholarship.
10. Grant Scholarship awardees must identify the provider of choice from a list of authorized providers and redeem the grant scholarship with the provider within 30 days of the grant scholarship award notice. Further, the driver's education course must be completed within 180 days of the grant scholarship award date. If a scholarship is not redeemed after 30 days of notice of the award and the course is not completed within 180 days of notice of the award of the grant scholarship by the student, the grant scholarship is forfeited and the student loses the scholarship and eligibility to apply again in the future. Students and providers may petition the Chairman of the Georgia Driver's Education Commission, or his designee, for a one-time 60 day extension of these deadlines. Additional requests will

be considered with a proven medical reason from a physician necessitating the addition time extension.

B. Provider Eligibility

1. Provider eligibility is open to the following types of providers:
  - a. Public and private high schools that are licensed by the Georgia Department of Driver Services.
  - b. Private driving schools (commercial for profit, and not for profit) that are licensed by the Georgia Department of Drivers Services and that have been licensed for a minimum of two years.
  - c. Technical Colleges, Colleges, Universities and State Agencies that are authorized to provide driver's education by their governing bodies and that meet the minimum standards for drivers training and driver's education set forth by said governing body.
2. In order to participate in the scholarship program, providers must submit a completed Provider Application and meet the minimum qualifications set forth in these requirements. All providers must agree to abide by the State of Georgia vendor requirements including, but not limited to, compliance with the Statewide Sexual Harassment Prevention Policy in accordance with Executive Order 01.14.19.02, the submission of a Form W-9, Vendor Management Form, E-Verify documents and agree to receive payments by Automated Clearing House (ACH) transfer.
3. Private driving schools must be in compliance with the Georgia Department of Revenue.
4. Government-owned driving schools must be in compliance with all Georgia Department of Audit and Accounts regulations.
5. Public and private high schools and private driving schools must be in good standing with the Georgia Department of Driver Services (DDS). Additionally, public and private high schools must submit a copy of the most recent audit report conducted by DDS and a corrective action plan if one was issued. If a public or private high school or private driving school has received a moderate or severe risk assessment within the previous year from DDS, the driver training school must provide the subsequent audit report demonstrating that the concerns raised in the DDS audit report have been satisfactorily addressed before they will become an authorized provider in the program.
6. Technical Colleges, Colleges and Universities, and State Agencies who participate in the scholarship program must be in good standing with their governing body and the Georgia Driver's Education Commission and agree to general oversight including the enforcement of driver's education standards adopted by the governing body and annual program reviews or audits.
7. Providers must agree to auditing and general oversight as required by the Georgia Driver's Education Commission.

8. Providers must agree that the scholarship grants may only be applied toward a standard 30/6 driver's education course in which the student receives a minimum of 30 hours of classroom instruction and 6 hours of behind the wheel instruction. For the purpose of this scholarship criteria, classroom instruction means in-person training conducted by an approved instructor. Virtual classroom instruction does not qualify for eligibility in this grant scholarship program.
9. The provider must agree that the reimbursement to the provider by the Commission based upon a scholarship grant to a student applicant for the 30/6 course will not exceed \$500.00. Further, the provider must agree that it will not impose any additional fee to the student for the 30/6 course. The Commission agrees that contracts will not be amended to accommodate fee increases.
10. The provider must agree that request for reimbursement of the scholarship grant submitted to the Georgia Driver's Education Commission will be the same cost or less than that cost charged to the general public for driver's education for a 30/6 driver's education course.
11. The provider must agree to submit an OCRA Certificate to the Commission within 30 days after completion of the course by the student grantee as proof that the course was completed. The provider must further agree that reimbursement to the provider by the Commission for any scholarship grant will be made after proof has been provided to the Commission after completion of the course. In the event that the student fails the driver's education course, the provider must submit a copy of the Student Log detailing the student's attendance in the course and a statement detailing the reason for failure in order for payment to be made to the provider. In the event that the student grantee withdraws from the course or fails to timely complete the driver's education course, the provider may charge the Georgia Driver's Education Commission up to \$4.00 per hour of classroom education completed and up to \$62.50 per hour of behind the wheel training completed. Providers must submit student logs detailing classroom hours and behind the wheel training completed in order to be compensated for students who have withdrawn from the course or have failed to timely complete the driver's education course. The total amount reimbursed for a student who withdraws or fails will not exceed \$491.00.
12. The provider may not set in place additional eligibility requirements for the students in addition to those set forth by the Georgia Driver's Education Commission.

<sup>i</sup> Paragraph A-4 amended to increase the maximum income level for second priority of scholarship awards for financial need to 125% of the free and reduced priced meals for students in the State of Georgia. Paragraph A-4 and A-5 amended to provide that grant scholarship allocations in priority level one and priority level two will be evenly distributed among Georgia's United States congressional districts. Paragraph A-7 amended to delete the provision allowing students reapply for the scholarship up to six times and including that students are only eligible to apply for a grant scholarship one time. Paragraph B-7 amended to delete the provision permitting the provider to charge the

grant scholarship student and co-grant awardee parent up to half of the price of the driver's education course for students who withdraws or fails to timely complete the course and includes the provision for providers to charge hourly rates to the Commission for students who withdraw from the course or fail to timely complete the course.

ii Paragraph A-1 was amended to include a driver's license in addition to a learner's permit for student eligibility criteria. Paragraph A-9 was amended to delete the provision that the provider may charge the student applicant and co applicant for up to half of the price of the driver's education course. Paragraph B-5 was amended to require public or private high school or private driving school's previously receiving a moderate or severe risk assessment within the previous year from DDS to provide subsequent audit reports demonstrating that the concerns raise in the DDS audit report have been satisfactorily addressed before they will become an authorized provider in the program. Paragraph B-8 was amended to clarify that that virtual classroom programs do not qualify for eligibility.

iii Paragraph A-3 was amended to require DD Form 1300 (Report of Casualty) as documentation for dependents of United States military personnel killed in the line of duty instead of Form DD 214 and DEERS records. Paragraph A-8 was amended to require that the scholarship must be awarded prior to the state date of the driver's education course. Paragraph B-9 was amended to include that the providers agree not to impose any additional fee to the student.

iv Paragraph A-10 was amended to include a provisions for students to request a one-time 60 day extension to the 180 day deadline for course completion. Paragraph B-9 was amended to clarify that the Commission will not consider contract amendments with providers for fee increases.

v Paragraph A-4 was amended to update the income eligibility levels for Tier 2 applicants to reflect updated free and reduced cost meal eligibility set by the Department of Education.

vi Paragraph A-4 was amended to delete the chart used to determine financial need eligibility and language added authorizing agency staff to make necessary adjustments to the needs-based income level to ensure that financial need eligibility is consistent with 125% of the Free and Reduced Price Meal Eligibility program for the State of Georgia as determined by the Georgia Department of Education as changes are published.

vii Paragraph A-6 was amended to change the award date of scholarships from the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month to the first day of each month. Paragraph B-2 was amended to include the Statewide Sexual Harassment Prevention Policy contractor requirements to the minimum qualifications for driver training schools to participate in the program.

viii “Public safety professional” was changed to “Georgia first responder” throughout the document. Additionally, the term “provider” was changed to “Authorized Provider” in Section A to eliminate confusion from applicants on which driver training providers can redeem the scholarship voucher. Paragraph A-3 was amended to include children or dependents of Georgia first responders who were disabled in the line of duty and to applicants who are in state custody under the care of the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services. Paragraph A-3 was further amended to use O.C.G.A. § 35-8-7.4(a) to define Georgia first responder. Additionally, Paragraph A-3 was amended to update documentation requirements for applicants in Tier 1 to include a letter of disability for applicants who are the child or dependent of Georgia first responder's disabled in the line of duty and a letter of documenting state-custody for applicants in the custody of the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services. Paragraph A-4 was amended to change the financial need eligibility from 125% to 175% of the Free and Reduced Price Meal Eligibility program. Paragraph A-5 creating a third priority level for all other applicants who do not mee the criteria set forth in the first and second priority level was deleted. Paragraph A-6 was amended by deleting the award process for third priority level applicants. Paragraph A-7 was amended to provide reconsideration of a rejected application for the following two months after the application was rejected.

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### **Summary of Proposed Changes to Georgia Driver's Education Commission's Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program Eligibility Requirements As Adopted**

1. Public safety professional” was changed to “Georgia first responder” throughout the document.
2. The term “provider” was changed to “Authorized Provider” in Section A to eliminate confusion from applicants on which driver training providers can redeem the scholarship voucher.
3. Paragraph A-3 was amended to include children or dependents of Georgia first responders who were disabled in the line of duty and to applicants who are in state custody under the care of the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services.
4. Paragraph A-3 was further amended to use O.C.G.A. § 35-8-7.4(a) to define Georgia first responder.
5. Paragraph A-3 was amended to update documentation requirements for applicants in Tier 1 to include a letter of disability for applicants who are the child or dependent of Georgia first responder's disabled in the line of duty and a letter of documenting state-custody for applicants in the custody of the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services.
6. Paragraph A-4 was amended to change the financial need eligibility from 125% to 175% of the Free and Reduced Price Meal Eligibility program.
7. Paragraph A-5 creating a third priority level for all other applicants who do not mee the criteria set forth in the first and second priority level was deleted.
8. Paragraph A-6 was amended by deleting the award process for third priority level applicants.
9. Paragraph A-7 was amended to provide reconsideration of a rejected application for the following two months after the application was rejected.

## Financial Need Eligibility at 175% of Free and Reduced Price Meal Eligibility

### 175 % of Free and Reduced Price Meal Eligibility

Household Size	175% Rounded Up	175% Monthly Rounded Up
1	\$ 43,999.00	\$ 3,667.00
2	\$ 52,280.00	\$ 4,357.00
3	\$ 74,561.00	\$ 6,214.00
4	\$ 89,842.00	\$ 7,487.00
5	\$ 105,123.00	\$ 8,761.00
6	\$ 120,404.00	\$ 10,034.00
7	\$ 135,685.00	\$ 11,308.00
8	\$ 150,966.00	\$ 12,581.00
9	\$ 166,247.00	\$ 13,854.00
10	\$ 181,528.00	\$ 15,128.00
11	\$ 196,809.00	\$ 16,401.00
12	\$ 212,090.00	\$ 17,675.00
13	\$ 227,371.00	\$ 18,948.00
14	\$ 242,652.00	\$ 20,221.00
15	\$ 257,933.00	\$ 21,495.00
Add amount for each additional after 15	\$ 15,281.00	\$ 1,274.00

## Transcript attached to 6/10/2022 Minutes for the Official Record

TRANSCRIPT OF THE PUBLIC HEARING  
CONDUCTED BY THE GEORGIA DRIVER'S EDUCATION COMMISSION  
ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE STUDENT ELIGIBILITY  
FOR THE GEORGIA DRIVER'S EDUCATION GRANT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

MAY 23, 2022, 10:00 AM

AT THE OFFICE OF  
THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY  
7 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., DRIVE  
SUITE 643  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

ALLEN POOLE: Good Morning, I'm Allen Poole. I'm the Chairman of the Georgia Driver's Education Commission. Today, I'd Like to call the Public Hearing to Order. Let the record reflect that it is 10 o'clock. Our purpose is to put forth any changes that we make as a Commission to the public and give them an opportunity to voice concerns or ask any questions. With that said, I'm going to defer to the Director of the Georgia Driver's Education Commission, Josh Turner. Josh.

JOSH TURNER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This Public Hearing is for proposed changes to the Student Eligibility for the Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program. All proposed changes have been posted on our website for the public to view and to comment. We have posted this hearing notice as well as the final meeting notice to adopt the changes in the Legal Organ of Fulton County. There are no members of the public present, so if there are no questions, I will defer back to the Chairman.

ALLEN POOLE: Is there any members of the public online today?

AMY RADLEY: Josh, do you know who "meeting guest" that is in the list?

JOSH TURNER: I think that's you.

AMY RADLEY: Okay. No. Really? I'm on here separately.

JOSH TURNER: I only show five participants: Allen Poole, Amy Radley, Kisha Bell, Pamela Farr, and Josh Turner.

AMY RADLEY: Okay.

JOSH TURNER: If there is anyone else on the call, please make yourself known.

AMY RADLEY: And Josh, did anyone appear at y'all's offices that wish to participate?

JOSH TURER: No one is here.

AMY RADLEY: Okay. And have you received any emails or anything by mail with regards to these changes from the public?

JOSH TURNER: We have not.

AMY RADLEY: Okay. Well, if you've ever wanted to say "speak now or forever hold your peace," now would be the time.

LAUGHTER FROM THE PARTICIPANTS

JOSH TURNER: Let me check the office one more time just to make sure that no one is here.

ALLEN POOLE: So, Ms. Amy, this is a question for legal.

AMY RADLEY: Sure.

ALLEN POOLE: How long do we have to go before we close the meeting. Is there a requirement.

AMY RADLEY: There's nothing written in the legal requirement. I would say give it at least five minutes in case somebody is having trouble getting on. Honestly, it's not like you can't continue to take public comments up until, I believe you guys set your hearing for June 10<sup>th</sup>.

ALLEN POOLE: Yes, ma'am.

AMY RADLEY: The Public can always comment via email or mail, as well, and even show up at your office and say: "Hey, I want to let y'all know this" because it's not a debate, it's simply them expressing whatever issue they feel there may be. So, I would say 10:05, your good.

ALLEN POOLE: Thank you for that information. It's not like the county where you're required to hold a public hearing, I believe, it's thirty minutes or an hour. So that's good news... we don't have to sit here for that long. But we are always open to any suggestions, you know, that people may have, after the fact, and we will be more than happy to address their concerns or any questions they may have.

LONG PAUSE IN COMMENTS

AMY RADLEY: Just out of curiosity, is it raining downtown. too?

ALLEN POOLE: Pouring.

AMY RADLEY: Yeah, it's pouring here, also.

ALLEN POOLE: Pouring.



ALLEN POOLE: So uh, I have 10:05. Let me reiterate, that at any time, any public, if you're on today or not, you have the liberty to come in and question anything regarding the changes or proposal that is going to go forth at our next meeting of the Commission will be June 10<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm to be approved by the Driver's Education Commission. With that said, if there are no questions or any information from anyone, I will close the Public Hearing and thank you all so much for your participation.

END OF PUBLIC HEARING – 10:05 AM

RECORDED VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS AND TRANSCRIBED BY JOSH TURNER



## Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship

### SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

Report Date: 7/1/2022

#### Summary

Monthly Allocation	Total Applied	Total Approved
385	1039	385

#### Applications by Tier

	Applied	Approved	Rejected
Tier 1	1	1	0
Tier 2	493	384	109
Tier 3	545	0	545
<b>Total</b>	<b>1039</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>654</b>

#### Applications by Congressional District

District #	Applied	Approved	Rejected
1	35	15	20
2	70	31	39
3	79	32	47
4	57	31	26
5	41	26	15
6	57	16	41
7	72	31	41
8	43	16	27
9	74	27	47
10	82	31	51
11	123	33	90
12	103	32	71
13	83	31	52
14	120	33	87
<b>Total</b>	<b>1039</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>654</b>



## Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program Monthly Scholarship Report

Month	August 2022
Total New Applicants This Month:	515
Tier 1 New Applicants This Month:	5
Tier 2 New Applicants This Month	510
Monthly Allocation:	385

Reconsideration Statistics		Approved	Denied
Tier 1 Awaiting First Reconsideration:	0	0	0
Tier 1 Awaiting Final Reconsideration	0	0	0
Tier 2 Awaiting First Reconsideration:	0	0	0
Tier 2 Awaiting Final Reconsideration	0	0	0

New Applicants this Month Eligible First Reconsideration Next Month:	130
Applicants Eligible for Final Reconsideration Next Month:	0

Congressional District	Tier 1			Tier 2		
	Denied Twice; Awaiting Final Consideration	Denied Once; Awaiting Second Consideration	Approved This Month	Denied Twice; Awaiting Final Consideration	Denied Once; Awaiting Second Consideration	Approved This Month
1	0	0	0	0	0	14
2	0	0	2	0	0	29
3	0	0	0	0	0	30
4	0	0	0	0	0	30
5	0	0	0	0	0	17
6	0	0	0	0	0	25
7	0	0	0	0	0	30
8	0	0	0	0	0	30
9	0	0	0	0	0	26
10	0	0	0	0	0	30
11	0	0	0	0	0	30
12	0	0	2	0	0	29
13	0	0	0	0	0	30
14	0	0	1	0	0	30



## Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program Monthly Scholarship Report

Month	September 2022
Total New Applicants This Month:	501
Tier 1 New Applicants This Month:	4
Tier 2 New Applicants This Month	497
Monthly Allocation:	385

Reconsideration Statistics		Approved	Denied
Tier 1 Awaiting First Reconsideration:	0	0	0
Tier 1 Awaiting Final Reconsideration	0	0	0
Tier 2 Awaiting First Reconsideration:	130	130	0
Tier 2 Awaiting Final Reconsideration	0	0	0

New Applicants this Month Eligible First Reconsideration Next Month:	246
Applicants Eligible for Final Reconsideration Next Month:	0

Congressional District	Tier 1			Tier 2		
	Denied Twice; Awaiting Final Consideration	Denied Once; Awaiting Second Consideration	Approved This Month	Denied Twice; Awaiting Final Consideration	Denied Once; Awaiting Second Consideration	Approved This Month
1	0	0	0	0	0	18
2	0	0	1	0	9	18
3	0	0	0	0	20	18
4	0	0	0	0	10	18
5	0	0	0	0	0	18
6	0	0	0	0	0	17
7	0	0	0	0	10	18
8	0	0	0	0	0	18
9	0	0	1	0	0	18
10	0	0	1	0	11	18
11	0	0	1	0	23	18
12	0	0	0	0	7	18
13	0	0	0	0	25	18
14	0	0	0	0	15	18

**Provider Scholarship Redemption Report between June 1, 2022 through September 15, 2022**

<b>Provider Name</b>	<b>Scholarships Redeemed</b>	<b>Provider Name</b>	<b>Scholarships Redeemed</b>
A-1 Driving School, Inc.	305	Georgia Northwestern Technical College	20
West Metro Driving School	179	Dickerson Driving School, Inc.	19
Barber's Driving School, Inc.	116	Just Driver Training	19
New London School of Driving Inc.	76	Albany Technical College	18
South Cherokee/Jasper Driver Improvement Clinic Inc.	69	1Act Driving Schools, LLC	17
Kennesaw Driving School	67	Pinnacle Pointe DUI & Driving Schools	17
The Wiser Driver	67	A Driving Advantage	16
Marietta City Board of Education	63	Atlanta Technical College	15
A+ Driving Services, Inc.	60	West Georgia Technical College	15
Advance Driving Academy	55	Safe America Foundation, Inc.	14
Augusta Technical College	46	South Georgia Technical College	14
Taggart's Driving School	44	Jones Driver Education School of Augusta, Inc.	13
Southern Regional Technical College	43	Oconee Fall Line Technical College	13
Savannah Technical College	41	Classic VIP Driving School, LLC	12
Drive Smart Georgia	34	Nathan's Driving School, Inc.	12
Coastal Pines Technical College	33	Athens Technical College	11
Southeastern Regional Driving and Safety Academy Inc	31	Georgia Piedmont Technical College	11
Lanier Technical College	30	Southern Crescent Technical College	11
1st Stop Georgia Driving Academy	28	Gordon County Board of Education	9
Georgia Driving School, Inc.	27	Southeastern Technical College	7
Gwinnett County Board Of Education	27	Duluth DUI and Driving School	6
Ogeechee Technical College	27	Oconee County Board of Education	6
Central Georgia Technical College	26	Drive Again Driving School	4
Collins Driving School	25	Columbus Technical College	3
North Georgia Technical College	25	FB Driving, Inc.	3
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College	25	Southern Defensive Driving School	2
Brock's Driver Education School, Inc.	24	1EZ DUI School, LLC	2
AA Academy of Action Driving School	22	Calhoun City BOE	1
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1925</b>

**Customer Service Report for June, July, and August 2022**

GDEC Provider Email Contacts	227	Individual Staff Email Contacts	3,969
GDEC Student/Parent Email Contacts	522	Invoices Processed: 414 invoices totaling \$412,491.80 accounting for 1,015 students	



**Georgia Traffic Deaths - Yearly Total and Comparison**  
**GDOT Office of Traffic Operations**  
**Fatalities as of 09/23/2022**

ROUTE TYPE

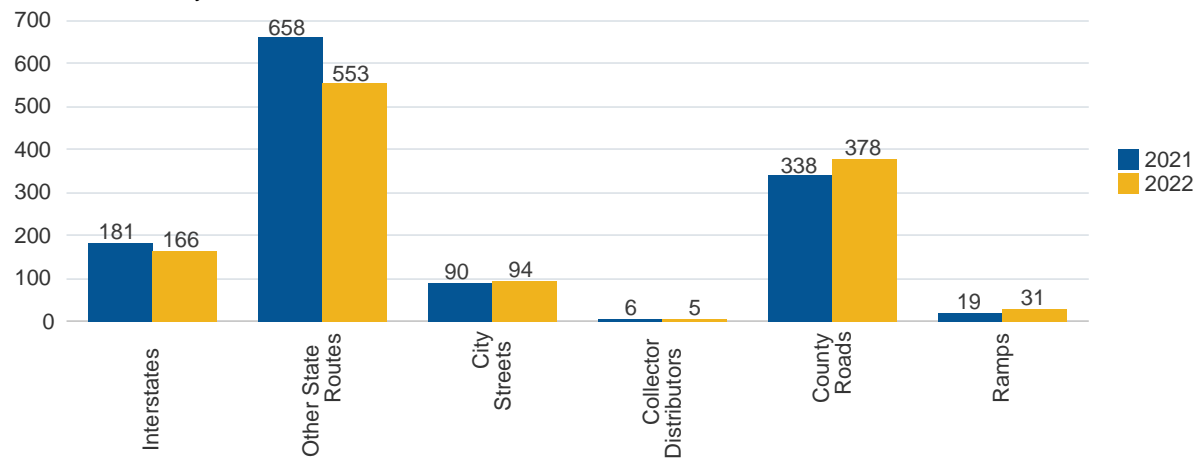
Fatality Details	TOTAL		ANNUAL		YEAR TO DATE		YTD CHANGE	
	2020	2021	Difference	Percent	2021	2022	Difference	Percent
Interstates	238	257	19	8	181	166	-15	-8
Collector Distributors	7	8	1	14	6	5	-1	-17
Ramps	15	26	11	73	19	31	12	63
Other State Routes	851	932	81	10	658	553	-105	-16
County Roads	483	483	0	0	338	378	40	12
City Streets	124	138	14	11	90	94	4	4
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1718</b>	<b>1844</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1292</b>	<b>1227</b>	<b>-65</b>	<b>-5</b>

YTD Fatalities by EMPHASIS TYPE

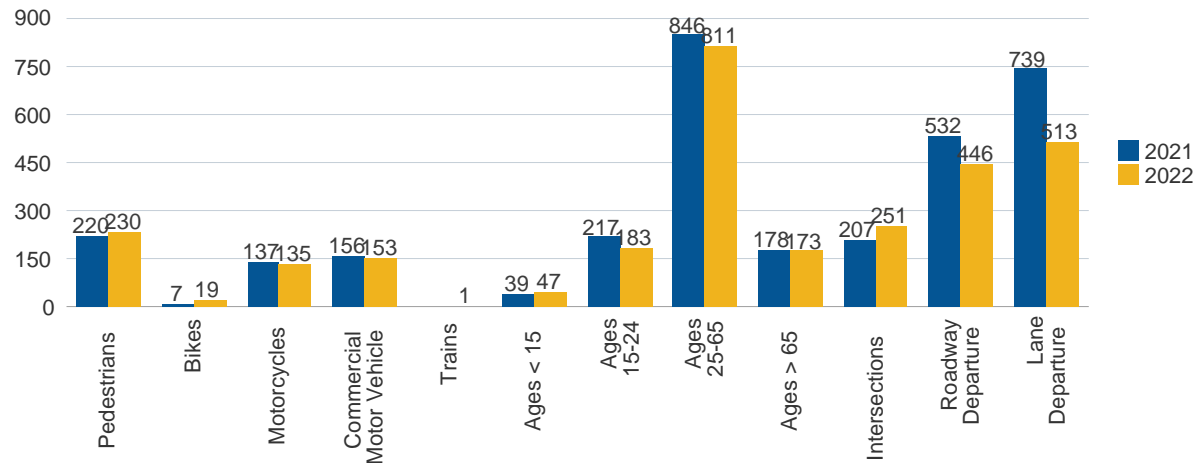
Fatality Details	TOTAL		ANNUAL		YEAR TO DATE		YTD CHANGE	
	2020	2021	Difference	Percent	2021	2022	Difference	Percent
Pedestrians	288	322	34	12	220	230	10	5
Bikes	29	14	-15	-52	7	19	12	171
Motorcycles	179	185	6	3	138	135	-3	-2
Commercial Motor Vehicle	206	207	1	0	156	153	-3	-2
Trains	5					1		
Ages < 15	60	53	-7	-12	39	47	8	21
Ages 15-24	265	314	49	18	218	183	-35	-16
Ages 25-65	1109	1182	73	7	849	811	-38	-4
Ages > 65	265	281	16	6	178	173	-5	-3
Intersections	303	308	5	2	207	251	44	21
Roadway Departure	762	743	-19	-2	534	446	-88	-16
Lane Departure	929	1031	102	11	742	513	-229	-31
Seat Belt (No/Unknown)	706	774	68	10	539	514	-25	-5

*Note: Any single fatality may fall into one or more Emphasis Types.*

YTD Fatalities by ROUTE TYPE



YTD Fatalities by EMPHASIS TYPE



YTD Seat Belt Fatalities

